

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) Grant of prospecting licences and mining leases are made in accordance with the provisions of Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and Mineral Conservation Rules, 1960. The applications for grant of concession are received by the State Governments and the State Governments in order to ensure transparency are free to constitute such Committees for evaluating the applications for grant of Prospecting licence/Mining lease subject to provisions of law. The Central Government does not monitor the constitution of such Committees and only in respect of minerals listed in 1st Schedule of the MM(R&D) Act, 1957, the State Governments are required to seek prior approval of Central Government before grant of PL/ML.

[English]

Programmes in Gujarati

1078. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the time earmarked for telecast of Gujarati programmes on Doordarshan channels I and II;

(b) the proportion of time allocated for broadcast of news in Gujarati through these channels;

(c) whether the content of all programmes telecast through these channels, including the reporting of news is required to be vetted by authorities in New Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The time earmarked to programmes in Gujarati on Channel I of Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad is 25 hours in a week and Doordarshan Kendra, Rajkot is 3 hr. 20 mts. in a week. As regards, Channel II, these Kendras only relay Delhi Programmes. However, Doordarshan Kendra Mumbai in their single metro, telecasts 2 hrs. 30 mts. programme in Gujarati in a month.

(b) The proportion of time allocated for broadcast of Gujarati News is 7% of total transmission hours from Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Establishment of Steel Plants

1079. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made with regard to the establishment of steel plants in any part of Orissa till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the steel plants are expected to be started commercial production; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d) According to the available information 12 proposals have been submitted to the Government of Orissa for the establishment of steel plants at various locations in the State of Orissa. Out of these, two plants have made progress, the details of which are given below :-

S.No.	Name of the Unit & Location	Capacity (MTPA)	Project cost	Likely date of commissioning
			(in Crs.)	
1.	Mid-east Integrated Steel Ltd., Duburi, Distt. Jajpur.	0.5 (PH-I) (pig iron) 1.2 (PH-II) (steel)	530 1680	Likely to be Commissioned in June, 97.
2.	Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd., Duburi, Distt. Jajpur.	0.5 (Pig iron) 0.6 (steel)	1525	Production of pig iron is likely to start by June, 99 and that of billets and wire rods by March, 2000.

Investment on High Value Minerals

1080. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to invest on high value minerals;

(b) if so, the States where these high value mineral are available;

(c) whether any systematic steps have been taken for the proper exploration of these minerals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?